

## RTJBL 2019 – MAJOR 70 DIVISION - HOPS CHALLENGER BASEBALL

Attention all RTJBL Major 70 Managers Coaches, Players and Families. As we continue our leagues support to Hunterdon Outreach Programs (HOPS) and their Challenger Baseball program this season.

**Beginning this Saturday 4/13/19 RTJBL Will Support Hunterdon Outreach Program Our M70 ASTROS Team will kick off the season with HOPS!**

**Please report to Flemington/Raritan Baseball Field #2 86 Elwood Ave. Flemington by 9:15am**

The program runs most Saturday mornings. Is managed by HOPS Board Members, staff and volunteers (including student-trainees from HCRHS) they conduct this baseball program for special needs (physical and/or developmental) children and adults in our community. Since its inception HOPS Challenger Baseball program have relied heavily on the support furnished by RTJBL. We do so through the managers, assistant coaches and players in our Major 70 Division.

**Participation and attendance is MANDATORY for all in Major 70 division teams**, and is encouraged for players and coaches from our Babe Ruth Divisions. For those that have not had the pleasure in previous participation; here's how it works: Each team will alternate Saturdays. ***On your team's designated day, all managers, coaches and players are to arrive by 9:15 am - dressed in team uniform jersey, pants and hat, with baseball gloves (sneakers are fine, no need for gear bags)*** for introductory instruction from HOPS staff. Players are then paired up with a Challenger Baseball player or players and, together, assist HOPS staff and participate in the group drills and a simulated game. Schedule for all teams will be created quickly and communicated to teams.

The players really, look forward to having our RTJBL players join them each week. They love interacting with our boys, many of whom will be experiencing for the first time interaction with disabled children of the same or similar age. Our participation goes a long way toward teaching our players the importance of giving back to the community, a sense of pride and accomplishment in helping those less fortunate to help better themselves, and to the one they leave with a significantly greater appreciation of their own good health and well-being that will no longer be taken for granted. The morning is filled with fun drills and a simulated game at the end of the session that are coordinated and run by the Staff and volunteers. Challenger Baseball is designed to introduce these children to baseball in a caring and structured environment, to give them the opportunity to learn and play baseball, to improve their skills and, generally to just have fun. The HOPS website is [www.hunterdonoutreach.org](http://www.hunterdonoutreach.org) If weather threatens your date, you can always check their website our website or text (Pam 973.830.7976) Team support schedule below; if changes are need will be updates posted on [rtjbl.com](http://rtjbl.com)

Sat. 4/13/19 M70 Astros (Rained Out)	<b>Sat. 5/11/19 M70 Astros (Updated 5/1)</b>
NO HOPS 4/20/19 NO HOPS	<b>Sat. 5/18/19 M70 Mariners (Updated 5/1)</b>
Sat. 4/27/19 M70 Yankees (Thank you Yankees)	NO HOPS 5/25/19 NO HOPS
Sat. 5/4/19 M70 Pirates	Sat. 6/1/19 M70 Yankees